

City of Takoma Park
THE MONTGOMERY COLLEGE NEIGHBORS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2005

The City of Takoma Park Montgomery College Neighbors Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, July 12th, 2005 in the Provost's Office Conference Room on the Montgomery College Campus, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Members Present: Bernard Aronson, Paul Chrostowski, Arlene Markowicz, Lorraine Pearsall, Frances Phipps, Richard Weil, Morelyn Weisman,, James Evans, Stacy Guian Sherman

Members Absent: Kathy Jentz

Staff Present: Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner

Others Present: Joy Austin-Lane, Councilmember, Brad Stewart, Vice President/Provost, Howard Stanley, Director of Facilities, Jennie Wells, Provost's Office Staff, David Capp, Chief of Facilities, John (resident)

1. Announcement

Kathy Jentz has been appointed to the committee.

2. Minutes

After a discussion and minor changes regarding the language used to describe the information sharing relationship between the College and the Committee the minutes were unanimously adopted.

3. Question

Hybrid buses: Why aren't we going toward CNG rather than hybrid technology, which is what WMATA is moving towards.

4. Master Plan

Presentation - see presentation material which was handed out by David Capp. The Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus is expanding because there is local

need/demand. The demand has always been here but campus wasn't able to grow, now that it is able to grow, buildings are being built. Most work force development is not on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. The study to assess infrastructure had a team of inventory structures and status of all systems, evaluate deficiencies. The Takoma Park Campus had horrible deferred maintenance, and was deficient with respect to ADA, fire code, space, elevators, etc. County funding for deferred maintenance repairs is 5.5 M per year.

The Master Plan goal is to maintain the character of the Campus (Neighborhood, tracks, Georgia Avenue) and comply with state codes for space.

The Plan will push more dense development towards Fenton. Buildings that are staying should not change on the exterior. Massing and other architectural details are dependent upon budget. Most changes involve tightening the exterior skin, not replacing it. Some building, such as the Science and math Center are in such bad shape that they cannot be renovated. There is no plan to build on the green space by Chicago and New York as per the current College Master Plan.

Changes are driven by enrollment and space deficiencies.

Landscaping and streetscaping will be associated with individual projects, not streets or areas.

Timeline: see handout - Will need state bonds to fund Master Plan identified needs. Generally only build one project on a campus at a time, unless funding or land comes through ahead of schedule (such as the Giant project). Anytime there is a delay, it bumps all the project and all other projects behind it out approximately one year.

The Master Plan is scheduled to be updated every five years, the next one will start in FY 2007.

The Smith Group which is doing a design for the Cultural Arts Center will be doing a sector plan at the request of MNCPPC which will include pedestrian circulation, and traffic circulation.

Question: Will the campus do anything to acquire the storage facility? A: Should the storage center become available then the Campus would look at acquiring it.

Q: Re: construction until 2023, can we work on improving traffic control use including construction, double-parking on New York Avenue, closed streets? Also had spoken with Takoma Park Police about enforcement on New York Avenue and they thought it was a campus street.

Neighborhood would like to talk to police at as a future agenda item with Silver Spring, Takoma Park, and Campus Police to discuss Parking.

Q: Re: Circulation Study - Would like to see a copy of the RFP for the study on the Takoma Park side so can see tasks.

A: yes will bring it when it is complete - will include signage and ADA issues. It will not include Ride-On buses but how many cars are turning and how it will increase traffic, where the pedestrian flow is and where entrances be.

See if at the next meeting enforcement issues can be discussed with SHA, Ride-on, and Park Police.

Q: Is there a traffic study for the new student center?

5. Bylaws

Joy Austin-Lane has revised the Bylaws for discussion at the next meeting.

6. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be September 20th at 8 PM, with meetings monthly until January.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Blanchard', written over a horizontal line.

Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner